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**From:** FRITHSEN, JEFF  
**Sent:** Tue 2/5/2013 1:10:58 PM  
**Subject:** BBA: Review of Revised Assessment Report

Today, Region 10 Regional Administrator Dennis McLerran will be providing an update on the Bristol Bay Assessment. The update will be provided to Alaskan Tribal members, participants at the Alaska Forum on the Environment, and members of the press. Dennis and Rick Parkin are scheduled to lead a session on the Bristol Bay Assessment in the morning. Dennis is a keynote speaker at the Forum in the afternoon.

In his update, Dennis will be announcing that the EPA is making arrangements with the 12 original peer reviewers to help us evaluate the revised draft Bristol Bay Assessment. This evaluation will focus on how well the revised draft is responsive to the peer review comments provided on the May 2012 draft assessment. Dennis will announce that this review is scheduled for spring 2013.

Dennis will also announce that concurrent with the review of the revised draft, we will also be releasing the revised draft assessment for public comment. The duration of the public comment period is likely to be 30 days.

Current plans are that we will share our draft response to comments document for peer review comments with the 12 peer reviewers, but we do not plan to release the draft response to comments document to the public until we finalize and release the final assessment. We do not plan to share the draft response to comments document for public comments with reviewers.

I wanted to let you all know so that you weren't surprised by any mention in the press.

Our goal remains the same. We want to deliver for internal Agency review the full complete revised draft assessment on **March 1**. We are working with senior management to have the revised draft assessment ready to deliver to peer reviewers and release for public comment on about **April 8**.

Thanks for all your hard work on this important project. The revised draft is looking very good and we all should be very proud of what we have accomplished. Thanks -- really.

Let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Jeff

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